

United States Patent Application
COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor I hereby declare that: my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; that

I verily believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or a joint inventor (if plural inventors are named below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR AWARDED CREDITS TO PERSONS WHO BOOK TRAVEL-RELATED RESERVATIONS

The specification of which
is attached hereto

☒ was filed on October 26, 1993 as application serial no. 08/143,453 and was amended on (if applicable) (in the case of a PCT-filed application) described and claimed in international no. filed and as amended on (if any), which I have reviewed and for which I solicit a United States patent.

hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 (see page 3 attached hereto).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119/365 of any foreign application(s) for patent of inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on the basis of which priority is claimed:

a. ☒ no such applications have been filed.

b. ☐ such applications have been filed as follows:

FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY, CLAIMING PRIORITY UNDER 35 USC § 119

COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	DATE OF ISSUE (day, month, year)

ALL FOREIGN APPLICATIONS, IF ANY, FILED BEFORE THE PRIORITY APPLICATION(S)

COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	DATE OF ISSUE (day, month, year)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120/365 of any United States and PCT international application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application

U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	STATUS (patented, pending, abandoned)

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I hereby appoint the following attorney and/or patent agent(s) to prosecute my application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith:

Bartingala, Kari H. Reg. No. 35,183
Bartoli, Brian H. Reg. No. 32,960
Beard, John L. Reg. No. 27,512
Beck, Robert C. Reg. No. 28,184
Bogucki, Raymond A. Reg. No. 17,426
Brennan, Thomas F. Reg. No. 35,075
Bruess, Steven C. Reg. No. 34,130
Byrne, Linda M. Reg. No. 32,404
Carlson, Alan G. Reg. No. 25,959
Carter, Charles G. Reg. No. 35,093
Caspers, Philip P. Reg. No. 33,227
Clifford, John A. Reg. No. 30,247
Conrad, Timothy R. Reg. No. 30,164
Daignault, Ronald A. Reg. No. 25,968
DiPietro, Mark J. Reg. No. 28,707
Edell, Robert T. Reg. No. 20,187
Gates, George H. Reg. No. 33,500
Golla, Charles E. Reg. No. 26,896
Gould, John D. Reg. No. 18,223
Gresens, John J. Reg. No. 33,112
Hamra, Curtis B. Reg. No. 29,165

Hassing, Thomas A. Reg. No. 36,159
Hillson, Randall A. Reg. No. 31,838
Hurey, Michael Reg. No. 32,513
Kastelec, Joseph M. Reg. No. 27,150
Kluth, Daniel J. Reg. No. 32,146
Kowalchuk, Alan W. Reg. No. 31,535
Kowalchuk, Katherine M. Reg. No. 36,848
Lasky, Michael B. Reg. No. 29,555
Lundberg, Steven W. Reg. No. 30,568
Lynch, David W. Reg. No. 36,204
Mau, Michael L. Reg. No. 30,087
McDonald, Daniel W. Reg. No. 32,044
McDonald, Wendy M. Reg. No. 32,427
Moy, R. Carl Reg. No. 30,725
Muetting, Ann M. Reg. No. 33,977
Nelson, Albin J. Reg. No. 28,650
Raasch, Kevin W. Reg. No. 35,651
Reiland, Earl D. Reg. No. 25,767
Roggen, Jesse D. Reg. No. 34,417
Schmidt, Cecil C. Reg. No. 20,566

Schuman, Mark D. Reg. No. 31,197
Schumann, Michael D. Reg. No. 30,422
Schwappach, Karl G. Reg. No. 35,786
Schwegman, Michael L. Reg. No. 25,816
Sebald, Gregory A. Reg. No. 33,280
Smith, Phillip W. Reg. No. 20,476
Sorensen, Andrew D. Reg. No. 33,606
Strawbridge, Douglas A. Reg. No. 28,376
Strodchoff, Kristine H. Reg. No. 34,259
Sumner, John P. Reg. No. 29,114
Sumners, John S. Reg. No. 24,216
Tellekson, David K. Reg. No. 32,314
Underhill, Albert L. Reg. No. 27,403
Vandenburgh, J. Derek Reg. No. 32,179
Vietzke, Lance L. Reg. No. 36,708
Welter, Paul A. Reg. No. 20,890
Williams, Douglas J. Reg. No. 27,054
Woessner, Warren D. Reg. No. 30,440
Wood, Gregory B. Reg. No. 28,133
Yip, Philip S. Reg. No. 37,265

I hereby authorize them to act and rely on instructions from and communicate directly with the person/assignee/attorney firm/organization/who/which first sends/sent this case to them and by whom/which I hereby declare that I have consent after full disclosure to be represented unless/until I instruct Merchant, Gould to the contrary.

Please direct all correspondence in this case to Merchant, Gould, Smith, Edell, Welter & Schmidt at the address indicated below:

3100 Norwest Center, Minneapolis, MN 55402-4131
Telephone No. (612)332-5300

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

	Full Name Of Inventor	Family Name	First Given Name	Second Given Name
2	HEINTZEMAN		SCOTT	B.
0	Residence & Citizenship	City	State or Foreign Country	Country of Citizenship
1	PLYMOUTH		MINNESOTA	USA
	Post Office Address	Post Office Address	City	State & Zip Code/Country
	4610 POLARIS LANE		PLYMOUTH	MN 55446/USA
2	Full Name Of Inventor	Family Name	First Given Name	Second Given Name
0	STOREY		THOMAS	W.
2	Residence & Citizenship	City	State or Foreign Country	Country of Citizenship
	MINNEAPOLIS		MINNESOTA	USA
	Post Office Address	Post Office Address	City	State & Zip Code/Country
	111 MARQUETTE AVENUE SOUTH		MINNEAPOLIS	MN 55401/USA
2	Full Name Of Inventor	Family Name	First Given Name	Second Given Name
0	MONSON		BARBARA	
3	Residence & Citizenship	City	State or Foreign Country	Country of Citizenship
	OCEANSIDE		CALIFORNIA	USA
	Post Office Address	Post Office Address	City	State & Zip Code/Country
	1501 SAN JOSE STREET		OCEANSIDE	CA 92054/USA
	Signature of Inventor 201	Signature of Inventor 202	Signature of Inventor 203	
	<i>Scott B. Heintzman</i>	<i>Thomas W. Storey</i>	<i>Barbara Monson</i>	
	Date	Date	Date	
	12/16/93	December 16, 1993	12/20/93	

For Additional Inventors:

☒ Indicate here and attach sheet with same information, including date and signature.

1	Full Name Of Inventor	Family Name MEDINA	First Given Name STEVEN	Second Given Name J.
2	Residence & Citizenship	City SAN DIEGO	State or Foreign Country CALIFORNIA	Country of Citizenship USA
4	Post Office Address	Post Office Address 8166 AEDEN COURT	City SAN DIEGO	State & Zip Code/Country CA 92120/USA
2	Full Name Of Inventor	Family Name MALARK	First Given Name GREGORY	Second Given Name A.
0	Residence & Citizenship	City MAPLE GROVE	State or Foreign Country MINNESOTA	Country of Citizenship USA
5	Post Office Address	Post Office Address 8975 KIRKWOOD CIRCLE	City MAPLE GROVE	State & Zip Code/Country MN 55369/USA
2	Full Name Of Inventor	Family Name	First Given Name	Second Given Name
0	Residence & Citizenship	City	State or Foreign Country	Country of Citizenship
6	Post Office Address	Post Office Address	City	State & Zip Code/Country
Signature of Inventor 204		Signature of Inventor 205		Signature of Inventor 206
Date 12/17/93		Date 12/16/93		Date

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(a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is cancelled or withdrawn from consideration or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is cancelled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:

- (1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and
- (2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.

(b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and

- (1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim or
- (2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:
 - (i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or
 - (ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.

A prima facie case of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.

(c) Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:

- (1) Each inventor named in the application;
- (2) Each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and
- (3) Every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.
- (d) Individuals other than the attorney, agent or inventor may comply with this section by disclosing information to the attorney, agent, or inventor.

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